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COUNTRY Syria
SUBJECT Demands of the Inhabitants of Hama

DATE DISTR. 15 NOV 49
NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE 25X1A
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW) 25X1A

DATE OF INFO [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] the following is a translation of a telegram which was received by Syrian Prime Minister Atasi on 9 October 1949. The telegram was signed, "the inhabitants of Hama," according to source.

1. "The Arab Syrian nation, famous for its opposition to the rule of terrorism, colonization and dictatorship, has emerged triumphant from its battle with Husni Za'im and is now more than ever strongly prepared to continue the fight for liberty and democracy. This nation, which is fond of liberty, is finding out today that the possibility of a return to terrorism still exists. The freedom of the individual, as well as the freedoms of speech, press, and politics are still suppressed and the 'regulations of terrorism' which were issued by the late dictator, Husni Za'im, are still in effect. Martial law, the Court of Justice (Majliss al-Adli), and some of the criminal laws which suppress liberty are still in effect in spite of their having been decreed under the dictator, Za'im. In addition to this, the feudal and religious reactionaries have commenced to organize their forces, and their activities are increasing every day.
2. "Therefore, the inhabitants of Hama, for the preservation of the rights of the Syrian individual and their democratic liberties, request action on the following demands:
 - a. The trial of those who allowed the arrest of 'the political democratic persons.'
 - b. The granting of general and private liberties, especially the freedoms of speech, press, and politics.
 - c. Opposition to all efforts of colonization and schemes for a Greater Syria or Fertile Crescent,* to oppose all treaties between the Great Powers and the Arab League, and to annul all economic and military agreements which were signed by the dictator, Za'im, especially the Tapline and Anglo-Iranian agreements.

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Document No.	
No Change to Class.	
Class. Changed To	TS S G
Auth.	RE 10-30-7
Date	10-30-7
By	116

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-2-

- d. Cancellation of the regulations of martial law and the courts of Justice (Majliss al-Adli.) and some of the criminal laws which suppress liberty.
- e. Prohibition of forced labor (sukhr).
- f. Suppression of some of the religious and fascist reactionary parties.
- g. The combatting of unemployment by helping the native industries; their protection by prohibiting the import of foreign goods; and the provision of work for the "handworkers."

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* [REDACTED] paragraph 1,c.

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